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# REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN, OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

AND

SUPER INTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE

st. No

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON,

For the Year Ending February. 1865.

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1865.

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# REPORT

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TOWN OF NEW BOSTON

FOR THE YEAR 1895

MANCHESTER, N. H.

CAMPBELL & BROWN, PRINTERS, 20 BOWDOIN STREET, MANCHESTER

1895



## SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen of the Town of New Boston submit the following statement of receipts and disbursements for the year ending March 1st, 1865:

### RECEIPTS.

Amount of taxes assessed,	\$8758 31
Literary Fund,	86 67
School Fund,	15 00
Railroad money,	6580 81
County paupers,	63 36
State aid,	1469 36
Use of Town House,	21 50
Dog tax,	69 00
	<hr/> \$10,549 01

### DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid State tax,	2480 00
County tax,	773 24
School house taxes,	185 00
	<hr/> \$3538 24

### PAID FOR SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Dist. No. 1,	27 06	Dist No. 11,	62 75
2,	52 70	12,	32 87
3,	39 18	13,	68 89
4,	80 39	14,	41 40
5,	54 64	15,	40 21
6,	51 51	16,	99 86
7,	56 69	17,	20 48
8,	286 42		
9,	61 69		<hr/> \$1101 48
10,	24 74		

### PAID TOWN OFFICERS.

George G. Fox, as Clerk,	\$38 75
W. R. Cochran, Superintending School Com.	100 00
James Danforth, Treasurer,	50 00
Robert B. Cochran, Selectman,	169 75
Daniel Campbell, do	155 50
Benjamin Colby, do	131 50
Robert B. Cochran, Overseer of Poor,	2 00
Daniel Campbell, do	3 00
Benjamin Colby, do	3 50
George W. Wilkins, Constable,	5 05
	<hr/> \$659 05

## SCHOOL HOUSE TAXES.

Dist. No. 6, to Ira Gage and B. Colby,	160 00	
16, to Wilson,	25 00	
	<hr/>	\$185 00

## ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid Samuel M. Worthley, labor on King Road in 1861,	\$10 50	
John B. Brown, labor on the highway,	2 00	
Samuel Marden, stringers, &c., for How bridge,	28 67	
Emerson Johonnott, for re-building How bridge and drawing plank,	31 00	
Zachariah Morgan, for stringers for bridge,	3 00	
Butterfield W. Hopkins, repairing culvert, &c.,	3 00	
Benjamin Colby, for labor and drawing stringers for How Bridge,	18 25	
J. W. Mansfield, for repairing bridge in Dist. No. 13,	1 25	
Robert P. Kelso, labor on highway in 1862,	7 62	
John B. Brown, for labor at How bridge, &c.,	6 26	
S. L. Christy, for labor on highway in 1863,	5 00	
Benjamin Colby, for repairing bridge, Gage road,	16 25	
John M. Lane, labor on river road, 1861,	1 00	
Samuel Dodge, plank for bridge, 262 ft.,	3 67	
Joseph A. Leach, work on stringers, How bridge,	1 00	
Allen R. Hopkins, labor on How bridge,	4 50	
Daniel Campbell, plank for bridge, &c.,	8 07	
R. B. Cochran, labor on stringers for How bridge,	1 50	
Daniel Campbell, labor on stringers, &c., How bridge,	3 50	
Benjamin Colby, for plank and labor on bridges,	67 46	
John Smith, repairing bridge near J. H. Gregg's,	13 00	
Wm. Beard, bridge near Goodwin's,	75	
Luke S. Lynch, repairing bridge and labor on highway,	19 00	
Daniel Gregg, plank for How bridge,	27 47	
	<hr/>	\$283 72

## INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Paid Jesse Wilkins for board of Selectmen and Auditors,	\$15 27	
Ephraim Fox, balance for digging grave,	33	
George W. McLane, oil, &c., for Town House,	1 74	
David Cochran, interest on note,	10 44	
David and Daniel Gregg, damages for falling over an embankment,	200 00	
Expenses of referees,	13 00	
Anna Shirley, interest on note,	11 68	
R. P. Fox, taking care of Town House,	7 00	
Wm. Butterfield, for erecting guide posts and board,	1 00	



Philantha Whipple, interest on note,	6 60
Daniel Andrews, do do	30 76
A. Cochran, do do	7 00
G. M. Shedd, for engine company,	30 00
A. W. Tewksbury, interest on notes,	142 66
G. G. Fox, stationery,	2 30
do record books,	16 75
do cloth and trimmings for coat for John Living- ton,	5 11
John Dodge, interest on two notes,	37 19
Andrew Crombie, care of the Town House,	8 00
Robert B. Cochran, money paid out, taking inventory and books,	13 72
Benjamin Colby, for cash paid James M. Douglass, dama- ges,	7 50
Whipple & Atwood, stationery and oil, &c.,	10 49
John Gilmore, services as Moderator,	6 00
	<hr/>
	\$584 54

## ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

John Morgan, 1863.	10 85
William B. Dodge, 1863,	2 63
Town farm, 1864,	23 93
Amos T. Lull, 1863 and '64,	2 00
John Dodge, over tax, 1864,	4 50
Nelson N. Philbrick, over tax, 1864,	1 25
Miss Aurinda Lull, over tax, 1863,	1 31
Mrs. Mary T. Colburn, 1864,	3 13
Heirs of Eben Dickey, "	38 73
Daniel Gregg, "	18 75
	<hr/>
	\$107 08

## NOTES AGAINST THE TOWN.

Jer. Burnham, note and interest,	240 83
John Whipple, note and interest,	37 51
Thomas R. Cochran, on note,	57 00
	<hr/>
	\$335 34

## COUNTY PAUPERS.

Paid E. E. Dickey for James H. Goodridge,	149 00
Dr. Danforth for medical attendance on James H. Goodridge,	22 00
Mrs. M. Colby, board of Nancy Wilson,	7 50
Whipple & Atwood, provisions for Jacob Towns,	11 20

N. P. Clark,	6 50
G. W. McLane, for Jacob Towns,	16 16
R. B. Cochran, for Hannah Davis,	22 00
	<hr/>

\$234 36

## PAID FOR PAUPERS OFF THE FARM.

John Hills, for support of Diantha Livingston,	\$26 00.
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## RECAPITULATION.

Receipt's,	\$10549 01.
Disbursements—State Tax,	2480 00
County Tax,	773 24
School house taxes,	185 00
For the support of schools,	1101 48
Town officers,	659 05
Roads and bridges,	283 72
Incidentals,	584 54
Abatement of taxes,	107 08
Notes and interest,	335 34
County paupers,	234 36
Paupers off the farm,	26 00
Non-resident highway receipts,	126 16
State aid,	1144 00
Bounty to N. C. Cram,	300 00
Balance of 1864 as per report,	35 65
	<hr/>
	\$8375 62
Balance in favor Town,	2173 39
Amount of notes and interest against town,	52083 00
From which deduct State notes,	3700 00
State aid due,	1144 00
Balance in favor of town,	2173 39
Money in hands of Selectmen,	1107 36
	<hr/>
	\$8124 75
Town Debt,	\$43958 25
Due from Selectmen, R. B. Cochran,	793 76
D. Campbell,	45 80
Benj. Colby,	267 80
	<hr/>
	\$1107 36
United States bounty due, doubtful,	3210 00
Borrowed,	\$14744 25
Paid to soldiers,	8336 00
Paid town notes, expenses and D. & D. Gregg,	5300 89
In the hands of Selectmen,	1107 36
	<hr/>
	\$14744 25



March 31, 1864, received U. S. bounty,	868 00
Cash of sundry persons,	2049 00
Money in hands of Selectmen,	858 00
Money of R. B. Cochran,	225 00
	<hr/> \$4000 00
March 31, 1864, paid note City Bank.	4000 00
There is in the hands of the Collector and Treasurer,	800 00
We have given notes to soldiers for themselves or substitutes, amounting to	13350 00
All of which is respectfully submitted,	
ROBERT B. COCHRAN,	} Selectmen of New Boston.
DANIEL CAMPBELL,	
BENJAMIN COLBY,	

## REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF POOR,

Of the Town of New Boston for the year ending March 1st, 1865. The Overseers of the Poor submit the following statement of receipts and expenditures for the poor on the Town Farm, and off the Farm. Also an inventory of the stock, provisions, &c. now on the Farm.

### RECEIPTS.

For 1 pair oxen,	240 00
As per book of superintendent on farm,	312 10
	<hr/> \$552 10

### CASH PAID OUT.

George W. McLane, for goods,	18 48
E. Warren, blacksmith bill,	4 52
H. Damon,	1 57
George G. Fox, goods for Town Farm,	41 02
Dr. Danforth, medical attendance,	12 50
Whipple & Atwood, goods,	3 81
As per book of superintendent,	283 34
1 pair oxen,	135 00
	<hr/> \$500 24

Appraised value of stock, provisions, &c., on the Farm February 28th, 1865.

1 horse,	\$75 00	2 hand saws,	2 00
1 colt,	50 00	2 wood saws,	1 00
1 pair oxen,	165 00	1 shave,	50
5 cows,	225 00	1 stone hammer,	2 00
2 2-year old heifers,	60 00	2 nail hammers,	25

2 1-year old do	30 00	Corn cutter and sickles,	[1 00
Hay, estimated 8 1-2 tons,	264 00	1 trap,	60
Lot corn fodder,	5 00	200 lbs. old iron,	3 00
2 shoats,	44 00	25 bushels corn,	56 00
13 fowls,	8 00	2 1 2 bushels beans and peas,	6 00
250 lbs. pork,	62 50	60 lbs. dried apples,	12 00
175 lbs. ham,	45 00	19 dry casks,	2 00
40 lbs. butter,	20 00	1 churn,	3 00
90 lbs. cheese,	18 00	1 spinning wheel and swifts,	1 50
1 barrel apples,	2 00	15 chests and trunks,	10 00
2 barrels cider,	10 00	6 meal bags and sacks,	3 00
1 1-2 barrels soap, &c., and		3 tubs,	2 75
barrels,	10 00	1 cheese press,	4 00
175 lbs. beef,	22 00	9 beds, bedding and sheets,	100 00
Garden sauce,	1 00	20 chairs,	3 00
90 bush. potatoes,	54 00	3 light stands,	1 00
1-2 barrel vinegar and barrel,	5 00	5 tables,	3 00
3 cider casks,	4 00	Stoves and furniture,	25 00
6 M Shingles in shed,	15 00	Meal chest and meal,	3 00
4 ploughs,	18 00	9 Pails,	2 00
1 grindstone,	5 00	Cheese safe,	2 50
2 harrows,	7 00	60 lbs. lard,	15 00
Lot of scythes and snaths,	3 00	13 earthen poss and pans,	1 50
3 iron bars,	6 00	7 stone jugs and jars,	4 00
2 whiffletrees and chain,	2 00	Lot of tin ware,	12 00
4 stake chains,	2 00	Lot of wooden ware,	1 00
4 hoes,	1 50	5 butter firkins,	1 50
3 shovels,	75	30 lbs. candles and tallow,	6 00
Lot manure forks,	4 00	1-2 barrel flour,	6 50
4 pitch forks,	2 00	Paring machine and coffee mill,	1 00
Sleigh and harness,	8 00	2 glass lanterns,	1 00
Wagon,	40 00	4 candlesticks,	50
10 M Shingles in barn,	40 00	Lot of crockery ware,	2 00
2 sleds,	10 00	Lot of knives and forks,	2 50
1 drag,	2 00	1 clock,	4 00
Lot of rakes,	1 00	1 bushel salt,	1 40
Cart and rigging,	25 00	2 sad irons,	75
Wheelbarrow,	3 00	2 mirrors and lamp,	1 00
Horse rake,	4 00	1 set andirons,	75
3 ox-yokes and bows,	5 00	Clothes line and basket,	50
3 ladders,	2 00	Dry measures,	25
4 axes,	2 00	Cheese fixtures,	2 00
Cart tire,	3 00	4 baskets,	1 00
3 draft chains,	7 00	8 M Lumber,	80 00
1 pick,	1 50		
Beetle and wedges,	2 00		
3 augers,	2 00		
			\$1799 50



# RECAPITULATION.

Received from avails of Farm,	\$552 10
Paid out for Farm,	500 24
Balance in favor of Farm,	\$51 86
Amount of stock and provisions on Farm the year ending	
March 1st, 1865,	1799 50
do February 20th, 1864,	1358 90
Balance in favor of Farm,	\$440 60
Paid Overseers of Poor, Robert B. Cochran,	2 00
Daniel Campbell,	3 00
Benjamin Colby,	3 50
	\$8 50
To which add salary of H. J. Wilson,	210 00
	218 50
Brought down,	51 86
Balance against the Farm,	\$166 64
Average number of Paupers 7.	

We are of opinion that the Farm has been well, and economically managed, and the household affairs, with neatness and economy and a proper regard for the welfare of the inmates.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT B. COCHRAN,	} Overseers of the Poor.
DANIEL CAMPBELL,	
BENJAMIN COLBY,	

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Having completed the duties assigned me in connection with our public schools, I come again, as required by law, to report as clearly as I can, their progress and general condition. With pleasure I express the conviction that with hardly an exception, they have been highly useful and creditable. But with many very small schools, and some poor school houses, and much irregular attendance, the best system and appearance are not to be expected—perhaps not possible. But, deprived by circumstances of some advantages, we may be assured they are generally those

we can best forego; and that after all, we cannot easily calculate the usefulness of our short and imperfect common schools. They are a priceless legacy which we have no right to leave in neglect. It is as much our duty to do our part to perpetuate and improve our best public institutions, as to improve ourselves or our condition. These improvements must from necessity be slow, but for that very reason, should always be making—slow but ceaseless. That is by no means a healthy condition of society in which any considerable portion lose, or cease to manifest, an interest in the only school which is really free to all.

Every family that from poisoned tastes or misguided notions of superiority, leaves the public school for some pet monied institution, helps to ally us closer to that unhappy social condition "where wealth accumulates and *men* decay." The failure of influential citizens to *visit*, or the young men and misses to *attend*, the district school, is only an earlier development of that spirit of indifference and pride which in other parts of the land has ripened into lamentable neglect, or oftener into a boast of having never attended the *common* school, and a silly, soulless aping of nobility. Let us shun such habits and ideas as we would a public enemy, for they tend to make our free school unpopular and our social relations like those exhibited by the contiguity of wealth and poverty in foreign lands.

Again, I think our efforts at education are too spasmodic and intermittent. We stuff the mind awhile, and then let it go hungry awhile.—It is *over-exerted*, and then totally *neglected*. This is evidently unphilosophical, as well as wrong. The young mind should be continually exercised, as well as the growing and active body. Hence, children should be required to study more or less through every vacation, and *work* or be otherwise active, more or less, through every term of school. This would in the end be a great saving of health as well as money. If, through a long, laborious vacation the pupil forgets all he has learned in term time, the net gain cannot be great. It is surprising to observe how many commence several successive terms at about the same place—learning and forgetting in monotonous and expensive alternation. Parental *advantage*, as well as duty demands that children *retain*, if they cannot acquire in vacation.

During the year I have made no changes in text-books, except to complete, so far as practicable, that commenced last year in Arithmetic and Geography. These books are confessedly appropriate; and I do most earnestly hope that my successor will not undo this auspicious step toward a uniformity of class-books. I am informed that the School Commissioner made the remark in one of our schools that Eaton's Arithmetic was the poorest in use. This was not only *false* and out of place, but came with very bad grace from one interested in another book. Nobody's grandfather was the author of Eaton's Arithmetic, and nobody but Mr. Adams made the above assertion. And more than all, it was none of his business. I have had some experience, both in the theory and teaching of mathematics; and selecting a book from comparison and actual examination, and strictly upon its merits, antiquity and family connection would be arguments of little weight. Had I known the facts in season, an additional subject of discussion would have been introduced into the public lecture. I have now served as Superintending School



Committee for three years, and it is time to make a change. The office is not remunerative at the present time, except in point of recreation and social advantage. I have judged the schools very much by their general tone and appearance, assured that if scholars are orderly and earnest in their work, they cannot fail of success. It would be impossible to measure the exact acquirements of each scholar. I have directed in all cases that special attention be given to reading and spelling; and there has certainly been a very general and enviable improvement in these primary branches of learning. From the first I have fearlessly attempted to be just, and the retrospect is welcome. Have received uniform personal kindness on all occasions, and made many very desirable acquaintances among our own citizens. During the past year I have made about eighty official visits. For three years, more New Boston teachers have been in actual service than would be required to teach all our own schools. I know of no persons in town above 21 years of age who cannot read or write.

A table of statistics is appended. Imperfect registers will be credited where they occur. The largest school was in No. 8, upper room, winter term—39. No. 16 had 37, No. 17, 36, for the same terms. The smallest average attendance was in No. 3. 13 districts had no corporeal punishment during the year. There was most tardiness in No. 9; least in No. 3. The whole amount appropriated to schools was \$1101.48; amount to each scholar \$3.20. Only two male teachers in town. Let us now look at the districts separately:

#### DISTRICT NO. 1.

Agent, Mr. Peter Butterfield. Teacher, Miss Martha R. Butterfield. This term lasted only seven weeks. The district has had only twenty weeks of schooling for three years—just the average for all the districts in town for one year. Miss Butterfield had never taught before, but succeeded to the satisfaction of all. The scholars were all young, and the attention was mostly given to reading and spelling—with obvious profit. School money for each scholar \$6.76. Good order.

#### DISTRICT NO. 2.

Agent, Mr. Ira Christy. Teacher, summer term, Miss M. A. Cochran. I think this school showed excellent improvement in reading and arithmetic. The teacher evidently had the good will of her pupils, and without severity obtained commendable method and order. Parents expressed satisfaction in very positive terms; and I know no reason why this might not be considered a successful school.

Winter term. Teacher, Miss Mary E. Andrews. I visited this school several times, and always found it in working order. Thorough and faithful instruction in grammar and other branches. This was Miss Andrews' first school, but she showed admirable courage amid many obstacles, and had throughout the approval of parents and committee. This is a fair example of the success of determined and unremitting efforts to secure order and the respect of high-minded citizens. Register imperfect.

#### DISTRICT NO. 3.

Agent, Mr. J. Q. A. Caldwell; teacher, Miss Lizzie Hall. This school continues to be kept in a private dwelling, there being no school

house in the district. There was only one term of school. More than half of the scholars were absent more than half of the time, and of course little benefited. The others, being neither absent nor tardy, received much attention from the teacher, and exhibited admirable progress in the few branches pursued.

#### DISTRICT NO. 4.

Agent, Mr. Leonard W. Merrill; teacher, Mrs. Mary A. Batchelder. This was an excellent school. All the classes seemed to manifest thorough discipline in reading and spelling. The whole bearing of this school was scholarly and systematic. All seemed cheerful and earnest in their work—to this end doubtless inspired by the patient and genial manner of the teacher. It is a general truth that the teacher's temperament is reflected in the school. A cross, vindictive teacher and a smiling, happy school never go together. An example of unruffled patience and moderation is invulnerable to the young mind; and teachers have no right to enter the school room with frowns, and scowls and maledictions—unspoken, yet felt and understood. The child's temper, like his mind, needs to be moulded by example as well as precept.

WINTER TERM.—Teacher, Miss Mary F. Atwood. I think this district fortunate in instructors throughout the year. At the Winter examination the recitations were of a high order; and several parents were present to hear them. Every scholar attended to writing with evident care and success. Order very good.

#### DISTRICT NO. 5.

Agent, Calvin Fuller; teacher, Summer Term, Miss Mary F. Atwood. The summer school in this district was smaller than for several years before. Only *five* were present at my first visit. Order very good.—All attended successfully to reading and writing. Classes in arithmetic cultivated but little ground, but it was faithfully done—turned over, sub-soiled and planted deep. The general exercises were of a commendable character and well calculated to give life and energy to the school. Something similar might be profitably introduced into all our schools to break up the dozy monotony of the long afternoons.

WINTER TERM.—Teacher, Miss E. C. Lawrence. This term there were twenty-two scholars—filling every seat in the old school-house. There was some whispering—some commotion; but I do not hold the teacher responsible for it in such a room thus crowded. It is barbarous to shut up such intelligent scholars in such a repulsive hovel, to say nothing of the trouble, mortification and extra labor of the teacher. I saw no parents in the school during the year—a result to be expected under the circumstances. I thought all the classes gained well in reading. The large and excellent first class took up Sargent's Fifth instead of the American School Reader—now gone from every school but that in No. 6—Money well expended on the whole, and school acceptable to the district.

#### DISTRICT NO. 6.

Agent, Mr. Benjamin Colby; teacher, Miss Lydia A. Dodge. Miss Dodge taught this school through the year. Many little accuracies of pronunciation, movement and manner, ever welcome to me, were wanting here, as in nearly all—perhaps more from necessity than otherwise.



In both terms discipline was fair, improvement good and scholars industrious. In both terms parents expressed much satisfaction and made generous visits. But few attended to writing, from the fact that a writing school was in session in the district. The singing here deserves special notice—the best I ever heard in any school, and an honor to any. The whole district was deeply interested and faithfully served. The Winter school was lengthened some weeks by subscription.

#### DISTRICT NO. 7.

Agent, Mr. John K. Christy; teacher Summer Term, Miss J. A. Cochran. I found this school very quiet and respectful. The teacher was evidently thorough in all branches. Credit deserved for instruction given and attainments made in arithmetic and grammar. Writing books looked finely. This was a good school.

WINTER TERM.—Teacher, Miss Carrie Patch. I was much pleased with the treatment of the classes in grammar. Miss Patch is a teacher of much tact and experience, and has been very faithful during several terms in this district. This was a useful school—pleasant, enthusiastic and earnest,—though not so rigidly governed as heretofore. Examination very acceptable and fully attended.

#### DISTRICT NO. 8.

Agent, Mr. Charles McLane. Summer Term, teacher, Lower School, Mrs. N. K. Fogg. This school, like that under the same teacher last year, was a very quiet, satisfactory and pleasant school. Teacher demeaned herself kindly and tenderly toward her young pupils, yet succeeded in maintaining her authority. Hence the school appeared orderly, though never primed or forced. Some teachers begin very strict and gradually let down their standard of order; others will be very easy and careless, things get loose generally, then draw up, punish and be cross a few days, and thus oscillate from chaos to carnage. There was nothing of this here. Mrs. Fogg, never exacting, was always steady, firm and resolute. A class in geography was very prosperous, manifesting as last year, much familiarity with the outline maps. Half the scholars not tardy at all.

Upper School.—Teacher, Miss E. F. Knight. All the classes here showed fair acquisition, especially in geography. Here were five students in Algebra. There was a little episode of strife in this school, acted before I had knowledge of it. I have no doubt that Miss Knight really tried to be kind, just and faithful. That the teacher's government and manner should suit every pupil, is not to be expected. That the scholar's whims and follies should be made the ground of parental action, is certainly to be deplored. I can see no reason to condemn the course of the teacher here. The alleged practice of striking scholars on the head with a ruler, cannot be approved; but that has no connection with the case to which reference is had. I have said before—and experience confirms the conviction—that insubordinate young misses, as well as lads, should be punished and sent back to school. Parents commit a fruitful error when they wink at or encourage either the indirect or overt rebellion of their children at school. The fact can never be very comforting, that in so doing they mirror their home government with undesirable exactness.

WINTER TERMS.—Teacher, Lower School, Miss J. A. Cochran. I

was pleased to observe good order in this school at all my visits. I think the teacher made generous and persistent endeavors to interest and assist the little, busy, restless learners under her charge. Attention chiefly directed to reading and spelling, and all classes made respectable acquisition—in some, very marked and positive. Less tardiness than usual.

Upper School.—Teacher, Mr. N. P. Hunt. The attendance in this school was very irregular, and the term was broken by the necessary absence of the teacher and the consequent collision in time with the High School. Some scholars I did not see in the school room, though I called three times. Mr. Hunt had the esteem of parents and pupils, and his conduct in the school received the respect and approval of the committee. It was “a very good school.” The teacher generously heard several recitations in Latin after school hours. According to the Register every scholar attended to reading and spelling, arithmetic and grammar. Seven studied algebra.

#### DISTRICT NO. 9.

Agent, Mr. Almus Warren; teacher, Summer Term, Miss Mary Neville. Noiseless and unassuming industry prevailed in this school. Excellent progress in all branches—especially reading. Miss Neville is a teacher of marked attainments and this was her first school—small, well-directed and successful.

WINTER TERM.—Teacher, Miss A. E. Mansfield. This school was unfortunate. Miss Mansfield lacked somewhat in resolution and force—and these characteristics were especially needed here. Hence she had not full authority over the school. The discipline of kindness and reason resulting from tastes and feelings so pleasing in other relations, had little effect upon the soulless and thoughtless boys she was called to govern. The native scholars of the district studied well, learned well, and behaved well—the others got little benefit. The teacher was poorly supported by part of the parents, those whose wards were most insubordinate and troublesome. I visited this school by application in its fifth week, remonstrated, warned, and promised to come again if needed. I heard no more of it till examination. I think Miss Mansfield attempted to do her duty. It was a hard, unwelcome task—and not to complete it is no dishonor. It is simple justice to state the fact—and gladly I do it—that Miss Mansfield has succeeded excellently well elsewhere under my own observation. Besides, it is no essential requisite of a teacher, to be able or willing to fight with dull, ugly boys.

#### DISTRICT NO. 10.

Agent, Mr. Allen Hopkins. Teacher, Miss E. M. Woodbury. There was only a brief term of seven weeks here—and that broken up with sickness. Scholars young and school very quiet, and as good as could be looked for under the circumstances. Miss Woodbury has taught here several terms, and I believe acceptably to the district. Several scholars from Goffstown as usual. Only twenty-one weeks of schooling in this district for three years. By forming a union district it might be doubled.

#### DISTRICT NO. 11.

Agent, Mr. Solomon Dodge. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Sophia F. Dodge. This teacher kept good order. Manifest improvement in mathematics in all classes. Those in geography deserve special notice for



proficiency and thoroughness. I thought this a profitable school.

Winter Term. Teacher, Miss Carrie Cochrane. Good instruction and much study obvious in arithmetic. The improvement in reading—and especially reading in concert, is worthy of praise. Order excellent.—My visits here were very pleasant; and I think the school had no superior in town. A fall school here under the care of Miss L. S. McNiell was generously sustained and very useful.

#### DISTRICT NO. 12.

Agent, Mr. E. Langdell. Teacher, Winter Term, Miss H. T. B. Woodbury. I had no connection with the summer school in this district, leaving it to the committee from Francetown. Only one scholar from New Boston during the year. The winter school was very orderly and quiet at my visits. Scholars very few, but industrious—most of them needing, I think, but little incitement to study. I found here some books introduced by the Francetown committee, and highly approve of the change. All the scholars attended to writing, and the books compared very favorably with others. With a well-qualified and working teacher, and willing, studious scholars we should expect a good school. Very little tardiness and irregularity during the term.

#### DISTRICT NO. 13.

Agent, Mr. Wm. Orne. Teacher, Miss L. S. McNiell. Both the terms were taught by the same teacher. I say of them that they were among the very best in town—thorough, business-like and practical, every way. In arithmetic particularly, the instruction was clear and exact. Several of the scholars went through the book quite thoroughly. Several smaller classes in reading learned very rapidly. No attempt at display—no surface knowledge, but plain, patient, earnest labor was characteristic of teacher and scholars. Good classes in natural philosophy and astronomy. Order good, and mutual respect and kindness observable. Parents evidently pleased and interested; and they attended examination as if considered important. It will never be less important—may it never be less attended and approved.

#### DISTRICT NO. 14.

Agent, Mr. A. Lufkin. Teacher, Miss M. J. Colburn. This school commenced early in May, but on account of sickness was adjourned to September, and continued for fifteen weeks. It was a thorough and excellent school. There was a nicety of execution in all its parts which was very pleasing. Errors of articulation or pronunciation could hardly be detected. The house and its inmates were always tidy and inviting; and there was a noticeable progress in all branches taught. No winter school.

#### DISTRICT NO. 15.

Agent, Mr. Daniel G. Smith. Teacher, Summer Term, Miss E. F. Morrill. This school kept five weeks and closed without my knowledge. I have no data for a proper report of it. Only five scholars. Register imperfect.

Winter Term. Teacher, Miss Carrie Cochrane. This was the best school I ever visited in the district. There was a marked change for the better in reading and spelling. Writing books gave evidence of care

and attention. Several scholars from beyond the limits of the district gave additional life and interest. The best order.

#### DISTRICT NO. 16.

Agent, Mr. Geo. H. Wilson. Teacher, Summer Term, Miss M. Louise Melvin. I visited this school several times and thought it moved along very harmoniously. Classes advanced finely in reading. Order good. This teacher manifested much energy and resolution, as well as accuracy and exactness of instruction. Miss Melvin was a good, critical and working scholar in the councion school, and when leaving that was respectably qualified, as all our young misses ought to be, to teach, herself. This was her first attempt, and every way creditable. 18 not absent one half day—which is true of no other school in town.

Winter Term. Teacher, Mr. J. P. Dearborn. I called here during the second week and found thirty-three scholars hard at work and well-directed. During the last week of the school the roads were impassable. I took the first opportunity and found the house barred against me.—School had closed that morning. Parents informed me that the order was good throughout—that the house was crowded at examination—that the scholars were thoroughly aroused to their work, and that full satisfaction was given to all.

#### DISTRICT NO. 17.

Agent, Mr. Eben Follansbee; teacher, Miss Philantha R. Whipple.—This school was in the fall—a term of only eight weeks. Visited during the second week and found in excellent condition. On account of sickness could not be present at the close. The scholars were mostly quite small—yet all attended to writing in some form. I have no doubt this was a good school. Register imperfect.

The summer and winter terms properly belong to Weare. Both were taught by Miss Mary Richards—her first attempt at teaching. I visited both schools, found the recitations uniformly good, but at the close of the latter, the evidences of decorum were not so pleasing as desired.

From the table of statistics hereto annexed it will be seen that the amount appropriated for schools is a little less, and the number of scholars considerable greater than last year, so that the amount per scholar is \$3.20. Last year it was \$3.62 1-2. In the union districts only those from New Boston are given in the table. In No. 12 the Summer Term is not credited because I have no register. Including that there have been 33 terms, which includes also the winter term in No. 17, for a similar reason not noted in the table. Average length of schools a little less than last year; tardiness a little greater. Average number of scholars for each school 18 1-8.

All which is respectfully submitted.

W. R. COCHRANE, Superintending School Committee.





